

Drake's Model of St. Peter's at Rome.

THE St. James's Bazaar, which "in its time plays many parts," contains at this moment a fine model of

— "the dome, — the vast and wondrous dome, To which Diana's marvel was a cell;"

It is made in wood by Mr. Drake, of very large size, and is well worthy of examination. It was the work of seven years, and must have required a stock of patience, as well as skill, larger than is usually possessed. In the ante-room is exhibited a very good panorama of Rome, "the city of the soul," — the "lone mother of dead empires," which will serve to prepare a traveller for the disappointment which is usually experienced on first entering the eternal city.

"The goth, the Christian, time, war, flood, and fire,
Have dealt upon the seven-hilled city's pride;
She saw her glories star by star expire,
And up the steep barbarian monarchs ride,
Where the car climb'd the capitol; far and wide
Temple and tower went down, nor left a site:
Chaos of ruins! who shall trace the void,
O'er the dim fragments cast a lunar light,
And say, 'here was, or is,' where all is doubly
night?"

In addition to the model and view, there are some original sketches by Michael Angelo, Sangallo, Bramante, and other architects connected with the building, and which, though slight, are very interesting.

APPLICATION OF DIFFERENT STYLES OF GOTHIC ARCHITECTURE.

SIR, — My attention was attracted last week to a paper in your magazine bearing the signature E. H., and to a remark met there, to the intent that the architects of the present day were expected to study the example of the middle ages, and to design their works in accordance with the true spirit of that remarkable period of barbarism and refinement. I do not quote *verbatim*, but I believe that my impression as to sense is correct. To do this, it is well said that we must visit the objects themselves, and there learn to feel the beauty of the styles we intend to design in.

This seems, indeed, to be an age of adaptation, — the solemn character of the Egyptian, the grace and beauty of the Grecian, Roman, Goth, and Middle Age are united in one age. But I have often thought that there is one circumstance which adds considerably to the striking effect of some of our finest old English structures, which is, that all improvements or additions were made in the prevailing fashion of the time. The diversity thus occasioned has often furnished a theme for admiration: Early English, Decorated, or Perpendicular arches were inserted in Norman walls, and it very frequently happens, that the old Norman doorway is the only relic left of the original church.

This circumstance has been of great use to the antiquary, who builds his era on the fashion of carvings, mouldings, and forms of arch and tracery. But returning to the idea of the beauty of non-uniformity, let us take, for instance, a large church with transepts, — the chancel and choir Perpendicular or Decorated, the transepts and centre tower semi-Norman or Early English, and the nave Norman. Other combinations may of course be chosen, but I think that a union of styles would give more of the correct feeling of the middle ages than to carry out our large works as all of one period.

Viewing such a church as suggested from the nave, we have a bold foreground, the vista gradually becoming more adorned till, at the eastern end, the beauty is complete; then stained glass and rich decoration should finish the picture, and satisfy the eye.

The arrangement just contemplated will be found in some of our finest cathedrals, — Durham in a degree, Lincoln better, and others might be named, perhaps, where the feeling is more fully expressed.

It has been said that invention in architecture has ended, that we can but copy now. Whether the elements of design are exhausted or not, there seems to be a general feeling against every thing new in architectural design; and unless we have a precedent for what we do, it is not correct and does not please. In the other branches of the arts we are pro-

gressing; but perhaps it may even be impossible to catch the genius of the early world, when man had every thing to design, and revelled in the luxury of an open and untroubled field. Now we are told of every suggested idea, "Why that is as old as the hills." The rail appears the only road to favour at present.

C. M. J.

Correspondence.

ST. MARY'S NOTTINGHAM.

SIR, — Doubtless for some years past you have heard of the contemplated restoration of this magnificent pile, and, unfortunately, it has only been hearsay, for nothing has been done. You will also probably recollect that about four months ago tenders were publicly advertised for, and there was every prospect of the building proceeding under the able hands of Mr. Cottingham. Thus far all the world has heard, but in this, as in many other cases, more remains to be told. Here is another instance of an unrestricted competition, and I am afraid it will end in another failure. I believe four tenders were delivered; three were very close together, about 5,000*l.*, and very near the architect's estimate, the fourth was 2,400*l.* By begging and praying, the builder who named that sum obtained leave from the committee to amend his estimate, and went through it with the clerk of works to see what was absolutely left out, and then sent it in at 2,800*l.*, which the committee allowed. Mr. Cottingham, as a matter of course, disliked having his designs murdered by such a tender, believing the works could never be done for the money; so of course he objected to it, and therefore the committee discharged him; and this *protégé* of theirs is to carry out the works, while Messrs. Scott and Moffatt are to step into Mr. Cottingham's shoes.

I have, I fear, already trespassed too much on your patience, and will merely subscribe myself,

AN UNINTERESTED PARTY, BUT A
LOVER OF JUSTICE.

Nottingham.

PURIFICATION OF WATER.

SIR, — I am much annoyed with the water I raise from a well in which is fixed a vast iron pump; the soil or bottom of the well is composed of gravel, and so is that of the whole neighbourhood.

The water is hard, but what I chiefly suffer from, is the water that is pumped at night being of a red or rusty colour, the next morning with a strong metallic smell, and a coating of a metallic substance on the surface of the water.

The kindness of a suggestion to remove this evil from any of your subscribers, will be highly esteemed by

Yours, &c.
Exeter, June 17th A. X. Y.

Miscellaneous.

CANNEL COAL. — It is not generally known that Cannel coal can be employed in the fine arts, and that for the bases of statues, plinths, and a variety of other purposes, for which black marble and other fossil substances are used, this fossil can be substituted at a less cost and with less difficulty in the cutting or carving. A very elegant vase of this material, something in the shape of the well-known Warwick vase, but flatter and partaking more of the patera shape, has been lately cut out of a block of Cannel coal, or rather "turned" out of the block by means of the lathe. The artist is a Mr. J. Dallaway. The vase stands on a fluted column of the same material. It has, we believe, been shown to his Royal Highness Prince Albert, who has expressed his satisfaction, both with the design and the workmanship of the artist. The polish that the material of which it is composed receives with very little labour, is surprising. The block came from the estate of the Duke of Norfolk, near Sheffield.

THE NEW PADDINGTON HOSPITAL. — His Royal Highness Prince Albert will lay the foundation of the new hospital at Paddington on Saturday, the 28th instant, at three o'clock in the afternoon. Mr. Hopper is the architect. We understand the choice wavered for some time between that gentleman, Mr. French, and Mr. Alfred Lang.

BRISTOL AND CLIFTON DRAINAGE. — The local papers say the Report of the Government Commissioners on this most important subject has aroused the inhabitants to form a Drainage Company. Clifton was gradually being ruined by the abominable cesspools made around the houses; and from the strata of the rocks, it is proved that all the wells are, more or less, affected by the overflowing of these cesspools. The calculations show that for a small sum from each house (one quarter the expense of emptying the cesspools) a per centage exceeding 10*l.* per cent. will be realized.

NEW CHURCH AT HULL. — A meeting of the subscribers to the Hull Church Building Fund was held last week to decide on the best plan for the proposed new church to be dedicated to St. Paul, when that of Mr. William Hey Dikes, jun., was selected from a great number that had been sent in and exhibited in the large room of the dispensary three weeks prior to the meeting. The church is designed to seat 1,200 persons, without galleries, and the walls are to be entirely of stone, without plaster. Mr. Dikes, we believe, is a native of Hull, but at present located at Wakefield.

FALL OF A FLOOR IN A MILL. — A few days since, soon after the commencement of a sale by auction in Dean Mill, Yeadon, near Leeds, the second floor on which the company were assembled gave way, and upwards of 50 persons were precipitated into the room below along with a great quantity of wood, machinery, and other weighty property. There were upwards of 100 persons in the room when the accident occurred, yet, astonishing to say, not a limb was broken, nor any one seriously injured.

FOUL AIR IN WELLS AND CESSPOOLS. — Mr. Green, of Sudbury, has been rewarded by the Society of Arts and Sciences for a method of purifying wells, &c., from the foul air which so often accumulates in them when long closed, and has not unfrequently been destructive of life. The plan is simply to throw into the well a quantity of unslacked lime, which, as soon as it comes in contact with the water, throws up a column of vapour, driving before it all the deleterious gases, and rendering it perfectly safe for the workmen to descend immediately.

TESTIMONY OF RESPECT TO MR. JOHN GRAY, CIVIL ENGINEER. — This gentleman, who has been the resident engineer of the Hull and Selby Railway ever since the completion of the line, had last week presented to him by upwards of 150 mechanics and workmen under his superintendence, an elegant silver tea and coffee service, on the occasion of his resigning his appointment for a more lucrative one on the London and Brighton line.

NOTICES OF CONTRACTS.

[We are compelled by the interference of the Stamp Office to omit the names of the parties to whom tenders, &c., are to be addressed. For the convenience of our readers however, they are entered in a book, and may be seen on application at the office of "The Builder," 2, York-street, Covent-garden.]

For executing Works on the Leeds, Dewsbury, and Manchester Railway, being a distance of about 4½ miles. The principal work on this division is the summit Tunnel, near Morley, which is upwards of 3,000 yards in length.

For the execution of a New Harbour at Greenock.

For the construction of Two Divisions of the Chester and Holyhead Railway, being Nos. 8 and 12. No. 8 contains a length of 7 miles and 54 chains. No. 12 contains a length of 5 miles and 26 chains.

For the erection of a Governor's House, and alterations of the Chapel, at the Worcester County Gaol.

For supplying the St. Marylebone Vestry, with materials for keeping the Foot-way and Carriage-way in order.

For the several works contingent on Warming and Ventilating the Chester Castle County Gaol.

For excavating and levelling Land, building Sewers, making a new Road, &c., on the Wheatley Estate, Erith, Kent.

For Bricklayers', Carpenters', Smiths', Plumbers', Painters' and Glaziers' Works, required to be done for one year, from the 24th inst., at the Churches, Chapels, Court-house, &c., of the Parish of St. Marylebone.

For lowering and making certain Improvements at the Yeuston Hill, Hematridge, Somerset.

For laying down a short Line of Railway, upon Pibrow's Atmospheric principle, and for two Cornish Engines.